

ER 61-1507/a

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Mr. Nicholas Kelley, President
National Civil Service League
315 Fifth Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.

Dear Nick:

I am delighted to get the good news that Sherman Kent has been selected to receive one of the ten 1961 Career Service Awards of the National Civil Service League.

Much as I would like to be with you for dinner, I have a previous engagement for dinner with Secretary McNamara on that date and, therefore, will be unable to accept your invitation. However, I understand the League is planning a reception from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. and I thought perhaps that I might join you at that time.

Although I am honored by your invitation for me to become a member of the Washington Sponsorship Committee for the Awards Banquet, I regret that I will be unable to take part in this movement. In view of my present official position, I have followed a firm policy of declining participation in non-governmental committees.

As you can appreciate, we do not take part in publicity and banquet promotion matters but we will, of course, be very glad to furnish you with any additional information on Dr. Kent. Colonel Stanley J. Grogan, one of my assistants, will work with you on this.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

1 - Col. Grogan w/cpy basic
1 - Alice/Hume w/cpy basic
1 - [redacted] w/cpy basic

O/DCL/AAB:rick:bak(6 Mar 61)

Distributed Approved For Release 2002/08/21 : CIA-RDP80B01676R003500140031-7

Orig. - Addressee
1 - Mr. A/Basic

1 - Dr. Kent w/cpy basic

1 - Dir. of Personnel w/cpy basic (sent separately)

STAT

NATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE LEAGUE

A Non-Partisan Citizens' Organization — Founded in 1881

Murray Hill 9-3544

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NEW YORK 16, N. Y.



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Dear Mr. Dulles:

It is a great pleasure to inform you that Sherman Kent, Assistant Director for National Estimates of the Central Intelligence Agency, has been selected to receive one of the ten 1961 Career Service Awards of the National Civil Service League.

Mr. Kent was chosen because of his unusual competence, character, and achievements exemplifying the highest principles of public service. We believe that public recognition of such an outstanding career highlights in general the importance of good government in our national life.

The ten Career Service Award winners will be honored at a dinner on March 21 in the Sheraton-Park Hotel in Washington. We sincerely hope you will reserve this date to join us in publicly recognizing Mr. Kent. In fact, we should like to consider you a member of a Washington Sponsorship Committee for the Awards Banquet. May we list you on the program in this capacity? To represent your Agency, will you please designate a representative to work with us in publicity and banquet attendance promotion.

Mr. Kent is being notified that he will receive an award. We shall appreciate your withholding any public announcement of his selection until we have made an official announcement. We shall look forward to seeing you at the dinner.

Sincerely yours,

N. Kelley
Nicholas Kelley
President

The Honorable Allen W. Dulles, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

February 23, 1961

NATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE LEAGUE FACT SHEET

The National Civil Service League is a nonpartisan civic organization representing the public interest in the public service. It is the only citizen group in the country working continuously to improve and modernize public personnel management at all levels of government. Founded in 1881 to spearhead the drive against the spoils system, it has always been in the forefront of personnel progress.

In its 80 years of public service the League has numbered among its active supporters some of the most distinguished civic leaders in the nation. Four Presidents of the United States (Grover Cleveland, Woodrow Wilson, Theodore Roosevelt, and William Howard Taft) have served as officers of the League.

The League is currently directed by prominent business and professional leaders who have served in or have a dedicated interest in improving our government. Nicholas Kelley of Kelley, Drye, Newhall & Maginnes is President. Robert L. Johnson, Chancellor of Temple University, is Chairman of the League Council, and Daniel W. Bell, former Under Secretary of State and Chairman of the Board of American Security and Trust Company is Chairman of the League's Board of Directors.

The League's Board is composed of a number of outstanding men, two of whom have been called to serve in the new Administration. John W. Macy, Jr. is the new Chairman of the U. S. Civil Service Commission, and James E. Webb is the new head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

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The work of the League, as a citizen spokesman for improving public personnel management, is now more important than ever before because of the growth of government and the challenges facing the nation. One out of every six men and women in our national labor force now works for government, which at all levels costs \$130 billion each year, and the need for competence in solving our domestic and international problems is widely recognized. Senator Henry M. Jackson recently pointed out that "human talent is our most precious resource" and we must have the talent "to outthink, outplan, and outperform totalitarianism." We must have as well the talent to perform all the other tasks of government. Citizen interest in helping government recruit and retain the capable people it needs to achieve what the citizenry expects is a modern necessity.